

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 3-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Franke, U.S. Patent No. 6,267,712, in view of Buckwalter, U.S. Patent No. 1,643,977.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner, in support of the rejection of independent claim 1, contends, in part, that, "Franke teaches a subassembly comprised of at least two machine parts including: an outer machine part (4 comprising a tensioning roller 3, Figs. 1 & 2) having an internal circumferential surface ...," (Office Action, page 2, paragraph 3, lines 3-5).

Franke discloses that the "coating 3 [is] formed from rubber or plastic," (column 3, line 5; emphasis supplied), and "surrounds an intermediate sheath 4 formed from aluminum," (column 3, lines 5-6; emphasis supplied).

In contrast, independent claim 1 provides that, "the outer machine part comprises a tensioning roller including a running disk made of steel," (emphasis supplied).

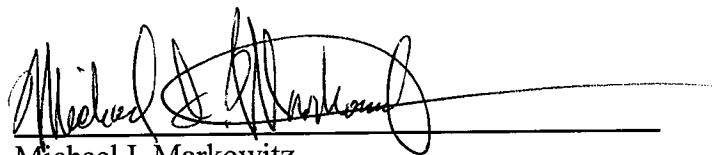
Since each of claims 3-6 is directly or indirectly dependent upon independent claim 1, each of claims 3-6 is allowable for at least the same reasons recited above with respect to the allowability of independent claim 1.

In view of the foregoing remarks, allowance of claims 1 and 3-6 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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